

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05391 262206Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 /040 W

-----262210 063717 /70

P R 261200Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4194

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5391

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PGOV GE GW

SUBJ: GDR IMPOSES FEE ON AUTOMOBILES ENTERING EAST BERLIN FROM
WEST BERLIN

1. GDR TELEVISION ANNOUNCED THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 25 THAT THE PREVIOUS EXEMPTION FROM GDR FEE "FOR USE OF THE STREETS" FOR AUTOMOBILES ENTERING EAST BERLIN FROM WEST BERLIN WOULD BE LIFTED AS OF MARCH 1, 1977. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WAS REPEATED IN ALL MAJOR EAST BERLIN NEWSPAPERS FEBRUARY 26. THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAYS THAT A FEE IS BEING LEVIED BECAUSE OF THE "HEAVY INCREASE" IN THE NUMBER OF AUTOS FROM WEST BERLIN WHICH HAVE ENTERED THE GDR, ESPECIALLY BERLIN, THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR, "OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS". THIS INCREASE IN TRAFFIC HAS ADDED A HEAVY ECONOMIC BURDEN ON THE GDR, ACCORDING TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH IS NO LONGER ABLE TO BE BORNE BY THE GDR AND ITS CITIZENS. THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE IS DETERMINED BY REFERENCE TO THE TARIFF AND TRAFFIC CIRCULAR NUMBER 52, DECEMBER 28, 1975 OF THE GDR MINISTER FOR TRAFFIC. WEST BERLIN TV COMMENTATORS SAY THE FEE IS 10 MARKS, IN FRG CURRENCY.

2. COMMENT: WE ASSUME THIS LATEST GDR MEASURE IS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT WEST BERLIN/FRG VEHICLES, AND PRESUMABLY THE GDR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05391 262206Z

WILL NOT SEEK TO ENFORCE IT AGAINST ALLIED VEHICLES. WHILE THE MEASURE WILL, IF IMPLEMENTED, BRING THE GDR MUCH NEEDED HARD CURRENCY, WE ASSUME ONE OF ITS MAIN PURPOSES IS TO REDUCE THE OVERALL FLOW OF WESTERN VEHICLES TO EAST BERLIN. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, HAVE AT HAND THE REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE TARIFF FEES AND HOW THEY ARE TO BE APPLIED, I.E., ON A ONE-TIME BASIS OR A MONTHLY FEE, ETC. PRESUMABLY THE GDR BELIEVES THE TARIFF APPROACH

IS AN EASIER ONE TO DEFEND AT BELGRADE OR PUBLICLY THAN AN APPROACH WHICH WOULD SEEK TO DENY CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF VISITORS ACCESS TO EAST BERLIN. THE MEASURE SEEMS CERTAIN TO ADD ANOTHER BURDEN TO FRG-GDR RELATIONS. WE UNDERSTAND PERMREP CHIEF GAUS WAS ON THE PHONE FEB 25 TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT TO DISCUSS HOW BONN SHOULD REACT WITH THE GDR ON THE MATTER.POLANSKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FEES, TRAVEL CONTROLS, AUTOMOBILES, BERLIN HIGHWAY ACCESS, HARD CURRENCIES, MARK (CURRENCY), CAPITAL FLOWS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05391
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770067-1261
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977026/aaaaafci.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8a98acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3370737
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR IMPOSES FEE ON AUTOMOBILES ENTERING EAST BERLIN FROM WEST BERLIN
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, GC, GE, WB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8a98acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009